

House File 393 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 393

BY GUSTOFF

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to nonpublic schools, including authorizing
2 nonpublic schools to withdraw applications for
3 accreditation, authorizing accredited nonpublic schools
4 to terminate accreditation, and including applicability
5 provisions.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsection 10, unnumbered
2 paragraph 1, Code 2023, is amended to read as follows:

3 The state board shall establish, and the department
4 shall use, for the school year commencing July 1, 2021, and
5 each succeeding school year, an accreditation, monitoring,
6 and enforcement process for school districts and nonpublic
7 schools seeking accreditation pursuant to this subsection and
8 subsections 11 and 12. A nonpublic school may withdraw its
9 application for accreditation submitted under this subsection,
10 or terminate the nonpublic school's accreditation granted
11 under this subsection, at any time by providing written notice
12 to the director. Upon receipt of the written notice, the
13 department shall cease all accreditation, monitoring, and
14 enforcement process activities related to the nonpublic school.
15 The process established shall include all of the following
16 requirements:

17 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY.

18 1. This Act applies to all applications for accreditation
19 submitted to the director of the department of education
20 pursuant to section 256.11, subsection 10, before, on, or after
21 the effective date of this Act.

22 2. This Act applies to all nonpublic schools accredited
23 by the department of education pursuant to section 256.11,
24 subsection 10, before, on, or after the effective date of this
25 Act.

26 EXPLANATION

27 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
28 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

29 This bill relates to nonpublic schools, including
30 authorizing nonpublic schools to withdraw applications for
31 accreditation and authorizing accredited nonpublic schools to
32 terminate accreditation.

33 The bill authorizes a nonpublic school to withdraw its
34 application for accreditation submitted to the director of the
35 department of education, or terminate its accreditation, at any

1 time by providing written notice to the director. The bill
2 requires the department to cease all accreditation, monitoring,
3 and enforcement process activities related to the nonpublic
4 school upon receipt of the written notice.

5 The bill applies to all applications for accreditation that
6 nonpublic schools submitted to the director before, on, or
7 after the effective date of the bill. The bill also applies to
8 all nonpublic schools accredited by the department before, on,
9 or after the effective date of the bill.